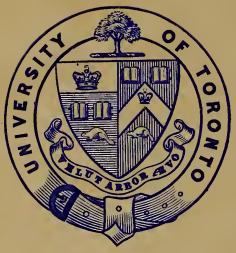

Bequest of

Rev. h. C. Scadding, D.D.

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TORONTO, 1901.

A

NEW HISTORY

OF A

TRUE BOOK,

IN VERSE.

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[redacted]

A

NEW HISTORY

OF A

TRUE BOOK.

1. THE Bible is the Book of GOD,
Which he alone could frame;
A little Child may learn to prove
It anſwers to it's Name.

2. The great Jehovah it reveals,
So glorious, and ſo good!
So much of GOD, tho' GOD could tell,
No other Being cou'd.

3. The wiſeſt Men, that never ſaw
This Book, when they have try'd
The Character of GOD to draw,
His Glories have deny'd.

4. Some made a ſpotted Bull their God,
And ſome to Serpents pray'd;
Idols of Metal, Stone, or Wood,
They call'd upon for Aid.

5. The Bible ſhews *one* GOD alone;
Right Reaſon joins in this:
Tho' Reaſon *now* in fallen Man
The glorious Truth might miſs.

6. Firſt, beſt, and greateſt, Cauſe of all;
A Character complete!
How glorious is JEHOVAH's Name,
Where all Perfections meet!

7. This

7. This Book contains his holy *Law*,
Th' eternal Rule of Right;
How happy muſt all Creatures be,
Would they herein unite.

8. All Duty in one Word is ſumm'd,
That one ſweet Word is "LOVE."
How ſhort, how holy, juſt, and good!
May I this Law approve!

9. "To HIM, who is ſupremely good,
Supreme Affection's due:
Deal by your Neighbour as you'd have
Your Neighbour deal by you."

10. None elſe but GOD, who knows the Heart,
This ſacred Book could pen,
Which does detect the inward Thoughts
And ſecret Luſts of Men.

11. *But what avails to know our Ail,*
Unleſs we know the Cure?
This is a melancholy Tale,
That endleſs Woe is ſure.

12. *Can none eſcape the Wrath of* GOD?
Are all condemn'd to Hell?
Who can but dread that dark Abode?
Who can with Devils dwell?

13. The ſame bleſt Book reveals the Way
To Life above the Skies;
The very chief of Sinners may
Receive ſo rich a Prize.

14. *Will* GOD *revoke his firm Decree,*
That he who ſins muſt die?
And diſannul his Law for me,
And lay his Anger by?

15. His

15. His Law can never be repeal'd,
It is too juſt and good:
Better a Thouſand ſinful Worlds
Should periſh, than it ſhou'd.

16. *But how can Sinners ſatisfy*
The Law, which once they broke?
Will Penitence for Payment ſtand,
And ſo keep off the Stroke?

17. No, all the Sinners' Efforts here
Would fruitleſs be and vain;
Nor Streams, nor Floods of flowing Tears,
Could waſh away the Stain.

18. A SURETY muſt be found, to pay
The Debt which Sinners ow'd;
He muſt the holy Law obey,
And bear our heavy Load.

19. *But where ſhall ſuch an One be found?*
What Creature is ſo kind,
Of all who dwell on earthly Ground;
Or what angelic Mind?

20. Mankind are all involv'd in Sin;
Nor would an Angel dare
So great a Work to undertake,
Or ſuch a Load to bear.

21. No Creature truly can ſuffice;
But GOD's eternal SON,
For this, deſcended from the Skies,
And put our Nature on.

22. Jeſus, I ſay, th' incarnate WORD,
Did all the LAW obey;
And thus its Honour was reſtor'd,
Which Sinners took away.

23. He bore his People's countleſs Sins,
And dy'd that they might live;
And all poor Sinners ſhall be ſav'd,
Who in his Name believe.

24. *Had* GOD *the* SON *more Love to Man*
Than GOD *the* FATHER *had?*
Or did he come to die becauſe
He thought the Law too bad?

25. No! GOD ſo lov'd a ruin'd World
He *ſent* his Son to die;
Then rais'd him up again, to ſit
On his right Hand, on high.

26. Chriſt meant to *magnify* the Law,
And ranſom Sinners too:
He dy'd that we, with Joy and Awe,
Might Grace and Juſtice view.

27. Now GOD is juſt, yet juſtifies
Each Sinner who believes;
Sin is condemn'd, the Law ſecur'd,
GOD all the Praiſe receives.

28. GOD's Glory highly is advanc'd,
And Peace on Earth proclaim'd;
Good Will is ſhewn to ſinful Men,
From Satan thus reclaim'd.

29. We ought, indeed, with rapt'rous Joy,
To hear this joyful Sound:
But, Oh! in our apoſtate Race,
What Wickedneſs is found!

30. All Men are ſo in Love with Sin,
They will not from it part,
Nor let the bleſt Redeemer in
To their ungrateful Heart.

31. A free Salvation they deſpiſe;
They ſcorn to be forgiv'n:
This empty World they idolize,
And have no Taſte for Heav'n.

32. *Will none then own their wretched State,*
And humbly ſue for Grace?
No, not till GOD renews the Mind,
And doth its Pride abaſe.

33. Thus we as much GOD'S SPIRIT need,
Our Spirits to renew,
As that his Son for us ſhould bleed,
To give the Law its Due.

34. *And can the Spirit, by his Pow'r,*
Renew the Man afreſh?
Yes; he removes the Heart of Stone,
And gives a Heart of Fleſh.

35. *Are none ſo* good, *but what they need*
An Intereſt in his Grace?
Not One by any other Means
Can ſee the FATHER'S Face.

36. *Are none ſo* bad, *but that he can*
Their Load of Guilt remove?
There is no Limit to his Pow'r,
No Limit to his Love.

37. When did the Saviour condeſcend
To die for wretched Man?
It was about Four Thouſand Years
Since Time on Earth began.

38. Near Eighteen Hundred Years are paſt
Since Jeſus Chriſt was ſeen,
On Jewiſh Ground, in mortal Fleſh,
Appearing poor and mean.

39. No worldly Pomp did he aſſume;
He did falſe Greatneſs ſcorn:
Conceiv'd in a poor Virgin's Womb,
And in a Stable born.

40. He paſt for humble Joſeph's Son,
But was the Son of GOD:
The Earth itſelf might well be proud
That he upon it trod.

41. He once a Carpenter was call'd,
Who built the Earth and Skies:
Proud Men would not their Maker own
In ſuch a low Diſguiſe.

42. *How could they think that this was He,*
The Saviour all divine?
Strange that his Godhead was not known
By ſome undoubted Sign!

43. The Saviour did not come to reign,
In gaudy Pomp, below;
But the Law's Honour to maintain,
And GOD's free Love to ſhew.

44. He came to cleanſe away our Sins,
By his moſt precious Blood;
And liv'd, and dy'd, and roſe again,
For our eternal Good.

45. Long Time before, had GOD foretold
His Advent and Deſign;
Which all the Prophets witneſs'd to,
Inſpir'd by Light divine.

46. They nam'd the Nation, Tribe, and Race,
From which he ſhould deſcend;
Said Bethl'em was his natal Place;
Shew'd how his Life ſhould end.

47. The antient Prophets now were dead;
The Jews their Tombs adorn'd:
But Him, to whom thoſe witneſſed,
They all abhor'd and ſcorn'd.

48. Thus they who kept the Prophecies,
Thoſe Prophecies fulfill'd,
Rejected HIM, the PRINCE of Life,
And crucify'd, and kill'd.

49. They hop'd a King with mighty Pow'r,
And Purple for his Robe,
Would elevate their Nation high
Above a conquer'd Globe.

50. Victorious Arms, triumphal Cars,
Sceptres, and Crowns, and Thrones,
Guards, Courtiers, Palaces, and Feaſts,
And Gold, and precious Stones:

51. Such pompous Baubles fill'd their Minds;
Theſe Tokens, they expect,
Muſt point the great Meſſiah forth; —
So Jeſus they reject.

52. No Crown of Gold the Saviour wore;
They crown'd him, once, with Thorn:
No Sceptre, in his Hand, he bore;
They gave a Reed, in Scorn.

53. He had no Place to lay his Head,
Much leſs a Palace proud;
Was hungry, thirſty, hard-beſtead,
His Guards a vulgar Croud.

54. His Steps poor Fiſhermen attend,
With neither Place nor Pay;
Nor had he ready Caſh, at Hand,
The Tribute to defray.

55. The

55. The ſhameful Croſs he made his Throne,
And there reſign'd his Breath;
The Sepulchre was not his own,
Which held him after Death.

56. O who could think this low Diſguiſe
Conceal'd Heavn's glorious LORD,
By Hoſts angelic, in the Skies,
Surrounded and ador'd?

57. His Throne is Heav'n; his Footſtool Earth;
In Robes of Light array'd;
Clouds are his Car; his thundering Voice
Makes all the Earth afraid.

58. They beſt his boundleſs Riches know
Who live with him, above,
Where Springs of Bliſs for ever flow,
And banquet on his Love.

59. Immortal Honours, endleſs Joys,
He for his Saints prepares;
Made, by him, Kings and Prieſts to GOD,
His Children and his Heirs.

60. His Birth ſeem'd mean, on Earth below;
But Angels, at it, ſang:
While all the Firmament around
With heavn'ly Muſic rang.

61. The Jews their new-born Prince diſown;
But wiſe men, from afar,
To viſit our Redeemer came,
Conducted by a Star.

62. No flatt'ring Nobles cring'd around;
But Patients, who apply'd,
Healing for Soul and Body found,
Nor once was one deny'd.

63. He made the Dumb his Praiſes ſing;
The Lame, for Joy, to leap;
His Word reſtor'd the Blind to Sight,
And wak'd the Dead from Sleep.

64. No armed Guards, nor gaudy Slaves,
His followers were made:
But Health and Sickneſs, Life and Death,
His potent Word obey'd.

65. The cruel Devils, at his Word,
Were forc'd to quit their Prey;
Death and the Grave confeſs'd their Lord,
And durſt not diſobey.

66. He not on fine-wrought Carpets trod,
But walk'd upon the Sea;
Th' obedient Waves confeſs the GOD,
And the tam'd Winds agree.

67. Thouſands, repeatedly, were fed,
When Jeſus made the Feaſt;
He pray'd, and a few Loaves of Bread
Supply'd a full Repaſt.

68. Tribute from him when Men demand,
Obedient to his Wiſh,
The Sea conveys it to his Hand,
And ſends it by a Fiſh.

69. Ev'n in his Death his Glory ſhines;
The Sun, in Black array'd,
Abhors the monſtrous Crime, which makes
The trembling Earth afraid.

70. Tho' Men, ungrateful and unjuſt,
His Agonies deride,
The Rocks were rent, the Graves were burſt,
When Jeſus groan'd and dy'd.

71. Boaſt, O devouring Grave, that He
Was once thy Captive made;
Or, rather, own thy Conqueror,
Who did thy Realms invade.

72. The King of Terrors loſt his Sting
When Chriſt, triumphant, roſe;
And now his dying Saints may ſing,
And ſmile at all their Foes.

73. To choſen Witneſſes, he prov'd
His Reſurrection clear;
Their former Cowardice remov'd,
And baniſh'd all their Fear.

74. Endu'd with Power from on high,
They publiſh'd, in his Name,
Pardon for Souls condemn'd to die,
To all where e'er they came.

75. Unlearn'd before, with ready Skill,
They ſpeak with diff'rent Tongues;
They uſe no Arms, but Faith, and Love,
And Patience under Wrongs.

76. Their Doctrine they confirm'd by Signs,
Wrought all among their Foes,
And Miracles of Pow'r Divine,
Which no one could oppoſe.

77. Like Sheep amidſt a Hoſt of Wolves,
They venture, undiſmay'd:
For GOD they act; for GOD they bear
The Suff'rings on them laid.

78. Their Lives, all holy, well confirm
The Doctrines that they preach;
Their conſtant Deaths, as plainly, prove
The bleſſed Truths they teach.

79. And

79. And ſtill, by Earth and Hell oppos'd,
These Truths maintain their Ground;
Their bleſt Effects, from Age to Age,
By Thouſands have been found.

80. Satan has vary'd his Aſſaults,
But never could prevail;
The Church is founded on a Rock,
A Rock which cannot fail.

81. The Jews, who, for their Unbelief,
Were ſcatter'd all abroad,
Are kept from all the World diſtinct,
And ſhew the Truth of GOD.

82. But *Chriſtians* know the ſweeteſt Sign
To prove the Bible true,
Who feel its Energy Divine
Their Paſſions to ſubdue.

83. O that the SPIRIT may impart
This heav'nly Light to me;
That I might feel a ſoften'd heart,
And GOD's own Glory ſee.

84. My Soul thereon ſhall daily feed,
Nor Honey taſte ſo ſweet;
Thy Precepts, Lord, my Steps ſhall lead,
Thy Promiſe be my Meat.

85. Thy Statutes here ſhall be my Song,
While I remain below,
Till I ſhall join the bliſsful Throng
Who in thy Preſence bow.

86. For, when my Heart and Fleſh ſhall fail,
Thy Word ſhall ſtedfaſt ſtand:
Thy Saints thy Faithfulneſs ſhall tell
To all th' Angelic Band.

THE END.